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Book Review

CRIME PREVENTION POLICY

(in Serbian)

Authors: Dragan Jovašević, Miomira Kostić

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In the Serbian criminal and criminological literature, theoretical studies on crime prevention policy are scarce. The monograph "*Crime Prevention Policy*", written by Prof. dr Dragan Jovašević and Prof. dr Miomira Kostić is a significant contribution to academic literature on this subject matter.

Structurally, the monograph comprises three parts. In the first part, titled *Basic Concepts of Crime Prevention Policy*, the authors analyze the concept of crime prevention policy, its genesis and development, as well as the principles underlying crime prevention policy. The clear structural framework and highly intelligible contents contribute to the reader's better understanding of the genesis and development of criminal prevention policy.

The second part of the monograph is titled *Prevention as an Instrument of Crime Prevention Policy*. In this part of the book, the authors first conceptually define prevention and provide a detailed analysis of the three basic forms of prevention: primary, secondary and tertiary prevention. In particular, the authors focus on the prevention of organized crime, human-trafficking and drug-trafficking, as well as the prevention of juvenile delinquency. These socially dangerous forms of criminal conduct substantially endanger the fundamental values underlying any democratic and civilized society. In this part of the book, the authors also examine the instruments aimed at preventing certain forms of victimization, with specific emphasis on preventing the victimization of children, the elderly and the homeless. Underlying the importance of post-penal assistance and its irreplaceable role in preventing recidivism, the authors justifiably underscore the need for full implementation of legal norms pertaining to post-penal assistance and re-socialization of former prisoners.

In the third part of the book, the authors focus on repression measures which apply whenever preventive measures are inadequate or insufficient to deter offenders from criminal conduct. The focal point of examination is the system of criminal sanctions in the

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Republic of Serbia. In particular, the authors provide a detailed analysis of the entire system of criminal punishments and other criminal sanctions, using the corresponding positive law provided both at the national and international level. The comparative and highly practical approach to this subject matter is a special quality of this monograph. The systemic structure of this part of the book is fully consistent with the systemic structure of the Criminal Code of the Republic of Serbia. Thus, the authors first elaborate on distinctive forms of punishment (imprisonment, fines, community service, and surrendering the driver's license); then, they focus on cautions (judicial admonition, suspended sentence, and probation/suspended sentence with protective supervision); finally, they discuss safety measures aimed at providing for special prevention. Further on, the authors present the basic characteristics of specific criminal law measures: rehabilitation, pardon, forfeiture of benefits derived from the crime, and assessment of legal consequences of conviction.

Criminal sanctions pertaining to juvenile offenders are systematically presented and thoroughly discussed in a separate chapter of this monograph. The presentation structure completely corresponds to the systemic organization of the Serbian Juvenile Justice Act (Act on Juvenile Offenders and Protection of Juveniles in Criminal Law of the Republic of Serbia). Thus, the authors first analyze diversion measures; then, they explore correction measures (warnings and guidance, increased supervision and institutional measures) and eventually discuss the basic characteristics of juvenile detention as the only form of punishment in the system of juvenile criminal sanctions.

The last two chapters of the monograph focus on the criminal penalties for legal entities and criminal sanctions in international criminal law, respectively. Thus, the authors provide a comprehensive coverage of repressive measures and elaborate on the social and legal response to crime. It should be noted that this book includes an extensive list of references and index terms, which contribute to the unique quality of this book and largely facilitate the reader's understanding of the subject matter under consideration.

The monograph *Crime Prevention Policy*, co-authored by Prof. dr Dragan Jovašević and Prof. dr Miomira Kostić, is a significant contribution to the theoretical study on crime prevention. The book is primarily intended for law students interested in exploring the subject matter of crime prevention policy, in subject-specific courses that may be organized at all levels of academic law study: undergraduate, graduate and postgraduate courses, where the book may be used either as a primary textbook or as additional literature. However, this book may be a valuable reference to a number of practitioners who are professionally involved in combating various forms of crime. In this context, I believe that the introduction of a special Crime Prevention Policy course at the undergraduate, master and/or doctoral academic law studies at the Law Faculty, University of Niš, would significantly contribute to promoting law students' knowledge and professional competences on this subject matter.